

00009-22 Key Points on Potential Impacts to Critical Infrastructure - Convoy in Ottawa - 01 Feb 2022

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Colleagues,

New information in bold as of 17:00 EDT

Overview

- * Effective 15 Jan, COVID-19 vaccination became mandatory for all truckers entering Canada from the United States to avoid a two-week quarantine and a negative COVID-19 test before arrival.
- * Similarly, beginning on 22 Jan, non-U.S. essential workers who are crossing land borders must be fully vaccinated.

Key Points

Details on Demonstrations

- * **As of 01 Feb**
 - * **Approximately 20 people are on Parliament Hill and approximately 50-100 people are on Wellington and surrounding streets**
 - * There is one known convoy east of Ottawa but it is expected to remain outside of the City.
 - * The crowd of parked trucks has thinned again overnight. **However, the sound of honking has continued in the downtown core throughout the day.**
 - * **Possible convoys coming in from Alexandria and Montreal are expected on 05 Jan.**
- * Police are working with organizers to facilitate the safe departure of individuals and vehicles and to ensure safety.
- * The crowd of trucks has thinned a bit. OPS is not permitting incoming truckers from filling the open spaces and this is causing some police engagement. Police resources are addressing this and deploying to maintain public safety.
- * Demonstration in the NCR has scaled down over the past 24 hours.
- * **However, organizers of the demonstrations are vowing to stay in Ottawa, despite police calls for a "safe exit" following a weekend of demonstrations.** [Link](#)
 - * **Some demonstrators are suggesting they will stay or return to the protest at a later date.**
- * **RCMP have begun enforcement activities at the border point of entry in Coutts, AB.** [Link](#)
 - * **Negotiations between with the RCMP and the truckers are ongoing.**

- * RCMP stated in a press release this afternoon that anyone who actively blocks a highway may be subject to arrest.
- * A demonstration (slow roll) was planned for this afternoon in North Bay to support the trucker convoy involved in an ongoing protest in Ottawa. [Link](#)
 - * The demonstration will cause traffic delays.
- * In the last few days, several invitations have been sent out on social networks to call on the population to go and demonstrate to demand an end to the state of emergency and health measures in QC. [Link](#)
 - * Convoys of cars and trucks are planning to leave from several locations in QC. The arrival in Québec City of a large part of the demonstrators is scheduled for early afternoon 05 Feb.

Preparedness and Response efforts

- * The GOC hosted a Significant Event Information Sharing Protocol (SEISP) teleconference at 13:00 EDT, with partners at TBS and PCO. Meetings will be on an ad hoc basis for the remainder of the week.
- * On 29 Jan, a Request for Federal Assistance (RFA) from Ontario was approved for access to Cartier Square Drill Hall parking lot, for staging of Ottawa Police Service (OPS) operations.
- * On 29 Jan, a NOTAM was issued for airspace restriction over Parliament Hill **and has been extended until 07 Feb.**
- * OC Transpo service around downtown Ottawa suspended on third day of truck convoy protest. [Link](#)
- * Vulnerable downtown residents hit breaking point as convoy enters 5th day. [Link](#)
- * Health-care workers and patients feeling pressure from the ongoing demonstrations. [Link](#)
 - * **As downtown streets remain congested with protesters, there have been challenges for paramedics to reach people who require assistance.**
 - * **Darryl Wilton, president of the Ottawa Paramedic Association, said some paramedics have had to enter streets on all-terrain UTV emergency vehicles while paramedics from Toronto have made their way to Ottawa to help.** [Link](#)
- * Ottawa Police Service (OPS) additionally reports the following:
 - The Ottawa Police Chief states that 'All options are on the table' to end truckers' protest as police are continue to negotiate with organizers in an effort to end the demonstrations. [Link](#)
 - The OPS setting up hate crime hotline after reports of assaults and threats. [Link](#)
 - * No violence took place in the NCR despite national protest for a wide variety of causes.
 - * Continue to avoid non-essential travel to the down town core.
- * OPS and Ontario Provincial Police resources continue to address areas of tension with truckers/demonstrators and maintaining public safety is the number one priority.
- * For information on [planned traffic routes and road closures](#).
- * For updates on the [City of Ottawa road closures and traffic](#) or via social media [@Ottawa_Traffic](#) and [@Ottawa_Circule](#).

Overall Assessment: (derived from information available on open sources):

- * The majority of the event was peaceful.
- * Since most government employees are working remotely, the disruption to government activities is so far minor.
- * There is currently no known end time for the demonstrations, **however it has scaled down again over the last 24 hours.**

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